

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. BULLES
Approved For Release 2003/07/09 : CIA-RDP80R01731R000700160020-0

On 29 October Mr. Charles B. Wrightsman wrote you two letters recommending that the Agency purchase a Learstar airplane. He also suggested that you visit him in Palm Beach to catch up on your tennis and swimming.

I have drafted the attached letter as a proposed reply.

L. A. White

6 Nov 54
(DATE)

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ER 6-2097A

13 November 1954

Charles B. Wrightsman, Esq.

Dear Charlie:

I appreciate receiving your letter of 29 October concerning the Learstar airplane. From your description it appears to be a fine aircraft.

While I do not know of any requirement for such a plane by this Agency at the present time, I will be glad to put Mr. Easton in contact with our procurement people when he is in Washington.

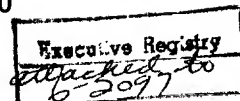
Clover and I are looking forward to seeing you both on the 20th.

Sincerely yours,

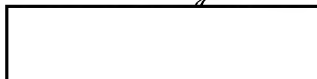
(Signed) ALLEN W. DULLES

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Charles B. Wrightsman



STAT

October 29, 1954

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Main Post Office Box 1513
Washington 13, D. C.

Dear Allen:

The Learstar really is a terrific plane and your Agency should have one.

Jayne and I had the pleasure of talking with Clover a few nights ago and were surprised to learn that although it was 6:30 in the evening you had not left your office. You must not work too hard.

We are going to be open in Palm Beach by the middle of November and with Washington only three hours away by Constellation--or Learstar--we will be expecting you to have a much needed rest with us and catch up on your tennis and swimming.

Sincerely,

CBW-G

Charles

Charles B. Wrightsman

STAT

October 29, 1954

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Main Post Office Box 1513
Washington 13, D. C.

Dear Allen:

I think that I told you we have just purchased a Learstar and I would think that a plane of this type would be just exactly what your Agency would need. Mr. William P. Lear, who has been a highly successful inventor of automatic pilots and other aeronautical equipment, and Mr. Gordon Israel, one of the Chief Engineers of the Grumman Aircraft Corporation, made a study and found that over a five year period the basic Lockheed Lodestar led all other aeroplanes, transport type, in safety from every aspect. Therefore, they went to work on the Lodestars and rebuilt their wings, moved the motors farther away from the fuselage and forward, and made many other changes that have resulted in fantastic performance figures. To accomplish this, they have about 90 percent rebuilt the Lodestar. The result is that with modest fuel consumption they obtain a range of over 3,200 miles and a cruising speed of 300 miles an hour. I feel very sure that no executive type aeroplane will approach this performance and, therefore, I have gone all out in having them build a plane for me.

The plane is a most efficient size and any kind of an interior can be had to suit the taste of the owner.

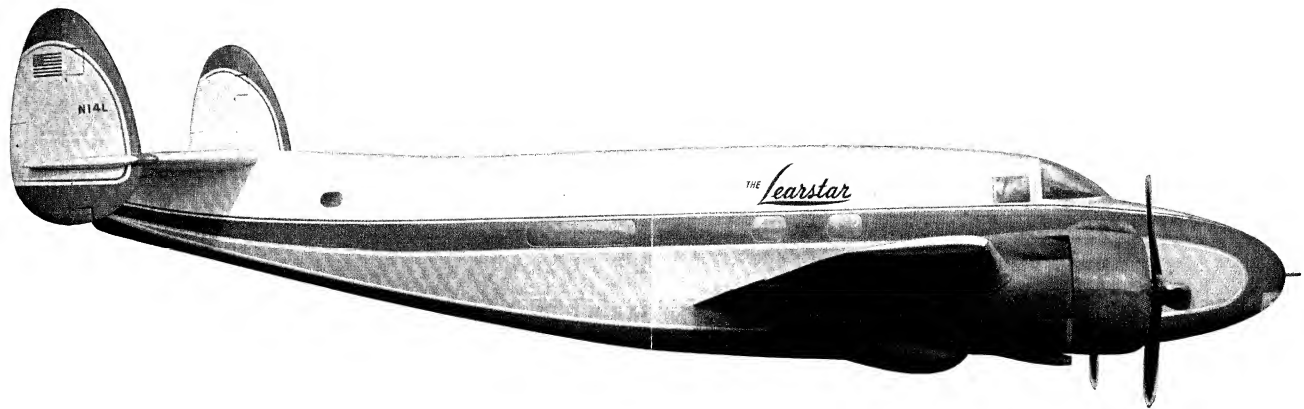
Mr. Elmer R. Easton, the Sales Manager for Lear, and their second conversion will be in Washington in the next few days and I am asking him to get in touch with your office so that the proper people in your Agency can have a look at the ship. It is just what you should have for a personally assigned plane--if you weren't so tight with the taxpayers' money.

Sincerely,

CBW-G

Charles

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The new *Learstar* is the only production twin-engine, transport-category airplane that can cruise at over 300 mph TAs at 10,000 feet, the only one that can fly 3200 miles nonstop, the only one that can cruise at 270 mph TAs using only 100 gallons of fuel per hour, and continue at this rate for more than 10 hours. In addition, the *Learstar* offers 2000 feet per minute rate of climb, exceptional single-engine performance, and the ability to operate with ease from pocket-size, grass-runway airports. The *Learstar's* spectacular performance is matched by the scientifically planned *Learstar* cabin interiors, researched and developed during many years of experimentation under actual conditions of executive travel.

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